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Executive Registry

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17 May 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, ORE

SUBJECT: Briefing of Government Officials after
return from overseas trips

1. One of my people has reported to me this morning that he overheard CIA being castigated at a cocktail party recently. It seems that CIA is a sloppy outfit, operating on a sort of hit or miss basis. The speaker, a government official whose name I have been unable to ascertain, had been carefully briefed by CIA before he started out on an extensive trip abroad, but CIA had not troubled to call him after his return, several months ago, in order to find out what if anything he had been able to pick up.
2. This is probably not a very important matter, but it would seem desirable for us to have some sort of a system for ensuring that we do contact those people, after their return, whom we have taken the trouble to brief before their departure. Perhaps it would be most appropriate for ORE's Presentation unit to maintain a checklist of some sort, since it is that unit which ordinarily initiates action to brief departing officials. Alternatively the job could be done in Liaison Division, provided that Liaison is fully informed of all briefings which take place.
3. It is probably safe to assume that OSO and OPC brief departing officials without advice to OCD, ORE or OSI. Hence I send info copies of this memorandum to them.

JAMES M. ANDREWS

Assistant Director
Collection & Dissemination

cc: COAPS
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